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chiefly in Tertiary times, and the agreement of the zoogeographical facts with paleontology and geology tends to show, that these reconstructions of the old continents are not merely wild speculations. However, the results cannot yet be accepted as final, and although some of the major features of old geography must be regarded as well established, much remains to be done in detail. Chief of all, additional groups of animals should be studied, and an attempt should be made to correlate the results obtained by them with those of Ortmann and Matthew; and further, attention should also be paid to the Mesozoic, and if possible, Paleozoic times. It is to be hoped that, for instance, the distribution of certain molluscs and lower vertebrates may furnish evidence with regard to these ages, although it is only natural that this task will be much more difficult, since the facts are very scanty, and their meaning is largely obscured by the changes in subsequent times.

A. E. O.

The Mountains of Cape Colony.—In the Cape Colony, southern Africa, are ranges of folded mountains very similar to the Alleghenies of the eastern United States. During the summer of 1905 Professor Davis had an opportunity to study the Cape Colony ranges while a guest of the British Association for the Advancement of Science during its South African meeting, and in this paper¹ has given a most interesting account of the ranges, comparing them with the Allegheny type. The paper will be of more than usual interest to American geologists and geographers, because of the striking similarity, in practically all essential features, of the two widely separated mountain groups, whether compared as to structure, the relation of folded areas to undisturbed plateaus, the erosion history and development of drainage adjustments, or the control exerted by the physiographic features upon transportation, etc. In climate, however, a marked contrast between the two localities exists. The paper is illustrated by a number of drawings and photographs.

D. W. J.

Natural Mounds.²—During the last two years a number of papers have been published describing and attempting to explain the origin of the natural mounds occurring in different parts of the country.

¹ The Mountains of Southernmost Africa. By W. M. Davis. Bulletin American Geographical Society, Vol. 38, 593–623, 1906.

² Natural Mounds. By Marius R. Campbell. Journal of Geology, Vol. 14, 708–717, 1906.

Mr. Campbell figures and briefly describes the mounds, reviews the various theories of origin, some ten in number, which have been advanced by various writers, and concludes from his own studies of the subject that the mounds have been built up by ants or small rodents, more probably by ants. A bibliography of the subject is appended to the paper.

D. W. J.

Ancient Glacial Periods.—During recent years the evidences of repeated glacial periods during ancient geological time have been accumulating so rapidly that whereas much doubt was cast upon the earlier reports of such glaciation, it is no longer possible for the unprejudiced student to doubt the conclusions which the evidence forces upon us. The famous Dwyka glacial formation of South Africa is now well known, and its equivalent in India, the Talchir. I. C. White and David White have recently reached the conclusion, independently, that the equivalent of these Permian or Permo-Carboniferous glacial deposits occurs in southern Brazil in what is called the Orleans conglomerate. Glacial deposits in Australia are reported from both the Permian and the Cambrian or older beds. A. P. Coleman has recently reported evidence of a lower Huronian ice age in Canada. Mr. Schwarz¹ discusses three glacial periods in South Africa, those in addition to the Permian Dwyka being most probably, according to the author, of Devonian and Archaean age. The relation of the glacial beds to other members of the general stratigraphic series is pointed out, and the evidence of the glacial origin considered. It is this last point which in every case is critical. The fact that a large number of reports of ancient glaciation are being published does not strengthen the evidence in favor of ancient glaciation in any particular case. Each reported instance must be critically examined as to the value of the evidence supporting it.

D. W. J.

¹ The Three Paleozoic Ice-Ages of South Africa. By Ernest H. L. Schwarz. *Journal of Geology*, Vol. 14, 683-691, 1906.